with other Central Nervous System depressants such as alcohol have been reported in other countries.

The "SCRIP" issue No. 978 dated the 4th March, 1985 has reported in the latest issue of Current problems (No. 14 of February 1985) from UK, CSM, had warned of the dangers of dextropropoxyphene related self poisoning and outlined precautionary measures to be considered by the doctors. According to the UK, CSM, "During the normal therapeutic use, dextropropoxyphene is rarely associated with serious adverse effects. However, when the therapeutic dose is exceeded the drug is extremely dangerous particularly in combination with alcohol and dextropropoxyphene is the commonest reported cause of drug induced death."

(e) To best of our knowledge, combination of analgesics with tranquillizers are being marketed in many countries including United Kingdom.

(f) to (h) As licences for manufacture and sale of formulation are granted by the State Drug Control Authorities, such combinations have been licensed to be manufactured and marketed by the respective State Drug Control Authorities long time back in consultation with medical experts.

Findings of U.S. Agency on Study of Arthritis Drugs

2392. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item appeared in the 'International Herald Tribune' of 30th December, 1983 under the caption "U.S. Agency to study arthritis drugs that a group links to 10,000 deaths"

(b) if so, the names of these arthritis drugs and whether these drugs are being marketed in our country;

(c) The names of the medicines based on these drugs being marketed in India;

(d) whether Government are aware of the findings of U.S. Agency;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof;

(f) whether there are substitutes available to these drugs; and

(g) if so, what are the reasons for not banning marketing of these drugs in our country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) This Ministry has no information on the news item which had appeared in 'International Herald Tribune' of 30th December, 1983.

(b) to (g) Do not arise.

Ban on the Ergot Combination

2393. DR. JOSEPH LEON D' SOUZA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have banned the manufacture and sale of drugs in combination with Ergot;

(b) whether it is a fact that such combinations are dangerous and have adverse effects;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Migranil, Cafergot, Vasogrin and Migril belong to fixed combination with Ergot; and

(d) if so, the reasons for which these products are being allowed to be sold in the country and by when the sales will be withdrawn?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (d) This Ministry have issued a Notification prohibiting manufacture and sale of Fixed dose Combina-

tions of Ergot as fixed dose combinations of Ergot are considered harmful. However, combination of its alkaloid Ergotamine with Caffeine which is specifically indicated for Migraine and where each of the ingredients plays a role in combating the attack of Vasograine headache is not covered by the ban. Migranil, Cafergot, Vasograin and Migril, contain Ergotamine tartrate and Caffeine and as such these drugs continue to be marketed in the country.

DTC drivers without valid driving licence

2394. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to Government's notice that in majority of the cases the drivers of the private buses under DTC operation have no proper or valid driving licences but only 'duplicates' or a police report in evidence of the loss of their licences;

(b) if so, what is the number of such cases detected so far stating the measures taken by Government to ensure that the public transport is run only by licensed drivers for the safety of the passengers and the vehicles;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the drivers and conductors of DTC buses are, under the rules, required to be in their uniforms and wear name badges while on duty; and

(d) whether these rules are being complied in letter and spirit; if not, what steps have been taken by Government to ensure strict adhearance of the rules in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) (a) and (b) Instances of drivers of private bus under DTC operation possessing duplicate valid licences issued by the competent authority have to come to the notice of DTC. The Delhi Police have also reported that there had been 5 cases detected during 1-1-85 to 12-3 86, where drivers of private buses under DTC operation were found without driving licences. In order to ensure that the vehicles are driven by those possessing valid driving licences, the Delhi Traffic Police keeps on checking from time to time the driving licences. The DTC has recently issued instructions to all the private operators running their buses under DTC to display passort size photograph of the drivers, duly attested from the Regional Manager of DTC, in the drivers cabin in the bus. This is with a view to eliminate chances of a person other than the duly authorised driver to operate the bus.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The crew of DTC buses found without proper uniform is challanned. DTC management has been asked to ensure strict enforcement of the rules regarding wearing of uniforms and name-badges.

भागलपुर-हावड़ा एक्सप्रेस का जमालपुर तक बढ़ाया जाना

2395. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : क्या परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को मंगेर जमालपुर-बरियारपुर-सुल्तानगंज के क्षेत्रों के निवासियों से भागलपुर-हावड़ा एक्सप्रेस को जमालपुर तक बढ़ाये जाने के सम्बन्ध में एक अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार इसे जमालपुर तक बढ़ाने का विचार रखती है ?